

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 146299

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA , IS, RO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF RABBI ISRAEL MILLER

REF: TEL AVIV 3871

1. WE HAVE BEEN URGING RABBI MILLER TO VISIT ROMANIA IN ORDER TO HAVE A FIRST-HAND VIEW OF THE JEWISH EMIGRATION SITUATION THERE, AS WE BELIEVE THAT THIS COULD BE HELPFUL IN CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF THE TRADE AGREEMENT. SENATOR RIBICOFF, WHO IS IN KEY POSITION ON SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, HAS INDICATED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN SUCH A VISIT, AS RABBI MILLER KNOWS.

2. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOU COULD DISCREETLY INQUIRE CONCERNING THE RABBI'S PLANS REGARDING A ROMANIAN VISIT AND ENCOURAGE HIM TO GO, IF THAT SEEMS APPROPRIATE. YOU CONFIDENTIAL

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COULD TELL HIM THAT WE ARE RECEIVING SOME ENCOURAGING SIGNS THAT ROMANIAN BUREAUCRACY IS BEGINNING TO MOVE MORE EXPEDITIOUSLY AND IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF HE WERE ABLE TO CONFIRM THIS. YOU MIGHT ADD THAT CONGRESSMAN GREEN

HAS ALSO TOLD ASSTSEC HARTMAN THAT HE BELIEVES A VISIT
BY THE RABBI COULD BE HELPFUL. LASTLY, WE HAVE NOTED TO
ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR BOGDAN HERE OUR VIEW THAT VISIT WOULD

BE DESIRABLE AND HE HAS SAID VISIT SHOULD BE WELCOMED
AND HE WOULD INFORM HIS GOVERNMENT AND SUGGEST ROMANIAN
AMBASSADOR THERE FACILITATE ANY REQUEST FOR ENTRY RABBI
MILLER MIGHT MAKE (YOU SHOULD CHECK THIS OUT WITH
ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR, AS THEIR COMMUNICATIONS ARE NOT
ALWAYS FAULTLESS).

3. PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED.

KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

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